



ACGC AGM: Allan Bullen continues as Chair

The ACGC Annual General Meeting took place on Friday 19th February, with Victoria's Allan Bullen (pictured) once more re-elected as Chair, unopposed and unanimously. Similarly, Tasmanian ACGC Director Gerard Mus was unanimously re-elected to the position of Vice Chair.

This year's AGM also saw the appointment of an additional representative from each state to the newly formed Policy Committee, where they will join the ACGC State Directors. The inaugural meeting of the Policy Committee will take place electronically later this month, and growers will be advised of their state representatives on the Council and the Committee.



**AgriFutures[®]
Chicken Meat**

AgriFutures releases results of its National chicken meat industry training needs 2020 survey

Growers may recall reading in the ACGC News last November about AgriFutures *Training and extension for the Chicken Meat Industry* project, in which people throughout the chicken meat industry were encouraged to complete an on-line survey.

There were 99 responses from 46 grower farm owners and managers (growers); 6 broiler farm assistant managers and farm hands; 13 breeder farm managers; 2 breeder farm assistant managers and farm hands; 4 hatchery managers; 27 company managers and livestock managers, and; 1 company veterinarian.

With regard to broiler farm responses, the following were the priority training and extension topics from 52 respondents:

Responses from Growers -

1. Ventilation
2. Work health and safety
3. Biosecurity planning | Brooding | Health and diseases | Litter and spent litter management
4. Water management
5. Chemical handling and storage

Responses from broiler farm assistant managers and farm hands -

1. Litter and spent litter management | Ventilation
2. Biosecurity planning | Brooding | Cleaning and disinfection | Health and diseases
3. Chemical handling and storage | Environmental management | Euthanasia | Pest management | Water management | Work health and safety

Given that the response rate from growers was only around 6% (46 responses from 720 growers), and in total (ie including breeder farms, hatcheries, company farming managers) the response rate was just 9%, the survey data is regarded as indicative only, but can nevertheless be used to help develop and provide training for the Australian chicken meat industry.

Australian Animal Welfare Standards and Guidelines for Poultry – latest news

The Independent Poultry Welfare Panel is close to finalising a draft of the Australian Animal Welfare Standards and Guidelines for Poultry, which will be available to key organisations (including ACGC) for comment this week.

This week the Panel will confirm the due date and process for providing comments on the poultry standards, and there will be a consultation period of approximately 4 weeks. This consultation will be limited to the key stakeholder organisations represented on the Stakeholder Advisory Group, given that wider public consultation has already been held on this subject. The Panel anticipates that the Standards and Guidelines will be finalised by May 2021.